

ECFS - Email Filing

<PROCEEDING>96-45

<DATE>02/08/2005

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<TEXT>I do not want to pay more for my telephone service! I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair!

I use my prepaid wireless phone only occasionally for safety, security and convenience. I don't think someone, like me who makes or receives no more than two or three calls a month should be required to pay more so that heavy volume, commercial users can pay less.

This proposed new radical "flat fee" shifts the tax burden from large corporate long-distance users to residential and small business telephone users, many of whom use little or no long-distance. The change will hurt seniors, students, minorities and rural residents -- those who can least afford it -- the most. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Peter Masuck

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